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RESISTANCE ACTIVITIES IN THE GDR

REPORTS OF ORGANIZED RESISTANCE IN EAST GERMANY -- Marseille, Le Meridional-  
 La France, 3 Nov 53

London -- According to secret reports arriving in London from East Germany, Soviet authorities there are faced with an armed resistance movement. The reports allege that, after the demonstrations of 17 June 1953, many East Germans went into hiding, where they were joined by Polish and Czech deserters, and began organizing a strong resistance movement. These partisans are now reported to be conducting a campaign of sabotaging railroads and bridges.

It is said that proof exists that the movement is operating under a central command. Its members are fed by the population. However, there is no indication that they are receiving aid of West German origin.

It is believed that the partisans are well equipped with weapons, which had been hidden by the Nazis in 1945. The responsibility for combating the movement belongs, not to the Soviet Army, but to the People's Police, whose strength has been increased by the addition of many Russians wearing German police uniforms.

London observers, ordinarily well-informed, believe that these partisan activities may partly explain the arrival in East Germany of Marshal Paulus.

Stockholm, Dagens Nyheter, 30 Oct 53

An increasing number of reports are coming into West Berlin about mysterious military activities in the Cottbus-Oderfurt region. Large numbers of the People's Police, according to some sources as many as 15,000 men, seem to have been put into action to track down and destroy a well-armed resistance organization said to consist of Germans, Poles, Czechs, and deserters from the Red Army.

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Newly arrived refugees, among them several railway men, report that the number of men in the People's Police is very large. Two guards are posted every 100 to 200 meters on the Cottbus-Berlin railway line. Observers are perched with field glasses on high trees near the roadbed. Patrols of the People's Police are posted at every railway station and stop.

The rumors that Soviet deserters have also joined the resistance movement seem confirmed by the fact that units of the Red Army have not been put into action up to now, despite the fact that there are strong units of Soviet troops within the affected region. It seems that it is desired to avoid contacts between the Soviet deserters and units of the Red Army. Also, at present, an increasing number of Soviet officers are fleeing to West Berlin. They all come from the maneuver area for armored units at Wuensdorf near Cottbus. -- Bo Järborg

STRIKES OCCUR IN GDR PLANTS -- New York, Forverts, 4 Sep 53

Berlin, 3 September -- The following incidents are reported from the GDR: An anti-Communist strike broke out in the main plant of Hettstedt, and resistance incidents occurred in the copper works of Helbra. In one plant the transformer was damaged, which put the entire machinery out of order.

COMMUNIST LEADERS IN GDR HAVE SPECIAL BODYGUARDS -- New York, Forverts, 7 Sep 53

Berlin, 6 September -- Communist officials in the GDR have special bodyguards from the People's Police. The anti-Communist Informations Buero West has stated that squads consisting of 5 to 20 men have been established to guard the highest officials of the Communist Party. Up to the outbreak of the anti-Communist riots in the GDR, only the President of the GDR and the members of the cabinet had semimilitary police guards.

COMMUNIST PURGE TRADE UNIONS IN THE GDR -- New York, Forverts, 23 Sep 53

Berlin, 22 September -- The Communist leaders of the GDR announced today that trade unions in the GDR will be purged, presumably to remove the strike leaders of the 17 June riots and punish the workers who received American food packages from West Germany. According to the GDR trade unions, all membership books of the unions for the period of 15 October to 15 November will be checked for the purpose of getting rid of all anti-Communists and reactionary members.

According to the trade union newspaper *Die Tribuene*, published in Berlin, each trade union member will be ordered to send his membership book to the union, and each union will then report to the Trade Union Federation of the GDR.

PROMINENT EAST GERMAN COMMUNIST ARRESTED -- Stockholm, Svenska Dagbladet, 13 Oct 53

The well-known East German Communist politician, Harry Zeuge, has been arrested by Ernst Wollweber's State Security police. The police disregarded Zeuge's immunity as a member of the Volkskammer. Zeuge possessed the title "Hero of Labor." -- By correspondent

GDR OFFICIAL RECEIVES BRIBES FROM WEST GERMANY -- Hamburg, Hamburger, Abendblatt, 6 Oct 53

Western agents have noted for quite some time that the Deputy Minister-President of the GDR, Otto Nuschke, is receiving large sums from West Germany

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for the purpose of freeing GDR industrialists from jail. Reportedly, this is being done with the approval of the State Security Service.

DEUTSCHE MARK CONVERTED INTO A GOLD THALER -- Rome, Giornale d'Italia, 1 Nov 53

Bonn, 31 October -- It has been learned that Soviet plans to permanently incorporate the GDR into the Soviet orbit include the conversion of the Deutsche mark (East) into a gold thaler.

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